

The Deaf Lutheran

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

*Published by the Board of Missions for the Deaf of the Lutheran Synod
of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States*

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Praise God

Great is the Lord, our God,
And let His praise be great;
He makes the Church His own abode,
His most delightful seat.

In Zion God is known,
A Refuge in distress.
How bright has His salvation shone
Through all her palaces!

Oft have our fathers told,
Our eyes have often seen,
How well our God secures the fold
Where His own sheep have been.

In every new distress
We'll to His house repair;
We'll think upon His wondrous grace
And seek deliverance there.

Selected

The Centennial of the Saxon Immigration

This year our Church remembers with thanksgiving to God the lives and the deeds of a company of pilgrims who landed in America from Europe in 1839 and joined with like-minded Christians here to establish a soundly Lutheran Church in the United States. At the convention of our Synod in June of this year the celebration in commemoration of this noteworthy achievement began with a service at the Municipal Auditorium in St. Louis, Mo., on June 19, when 10,000 members of our Church gathered to confess the Apostles' Creed and to sing the battle-hymn of the Reformation, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." Addressing the vast audience, Dr. J. W. Behnken, the President of our Synod, then earnestly admonished his hearers to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. Before the close of the year and also in 1939, the centennial year of the landing of the Saxon immi-

grants, the congregations of our Synod in the various sections of our country will make, and carry out, their own plans to honor the founders of our Church.

Our Lutheran forefathers left their native land in Europe because they desired to live in a country where they could worship God according to the principles laid down in the Bible, unhampered by church rules contrary to the dictates of their conscience. While they suffered many hardships on their voyage and in their pioneering days, yet there finally emerged from their efforts and experiences, by the gracious blessing of God, the Synod of which we are members.

The deaf, too, have every reason to remember and celebrate this centennial. If those Saxon immigrants had not come to our shores, there would, humanly speaking, be no Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States, and likewise there would be no Lutheran Mission to the Deaf such as we have now, which preaches the Gospel of life and salvation through Christ to the deaf in the sign-language. Purity of doctrine, in full accord with Holy Writ, is the world's greatest treasure. May our deaf also thank God that this inheritance has come down to them! May they show their appreciation by attending services regularly and by helping the Church to lead many more deaf to the foot of the cross of Jesus! Here alone there is perfect pardon for sin, peace, and rest for the soul. May the deaf, together with all the saints who have gone before, finally join the heavenly choir before the throne of the Lamb to sing hymns of praise and triumph throughout a blessed and happy eternity!

O. C. S.

THE BREAD OF LIFE

Bible-Study for September

"All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." Matt. 21:22

Bible-Lesson: Mark 11:20-26

"And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig-tree dried up from the roots. And Peter, calling to remembrance, saith unto Him, Master, behold, the fig-tree which Thou cursedst is withered away. And Jesus, answering, saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea, and shall not doubt in his heart but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass, he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive if ye have aught against any that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."

Returning to the city on Tuesday morning, the disciples saw that the fig-tree which Jesus had cursed on the previous morning was withered and dead. When Peter called the Lord's attention to it, He answered, "Have faith in God." Perhaps there was in the heart of Peter and the other disciples a desire to perform miracles like this one, and Jesus, knowing their thoughts, replied that such miracles can be performed only if one has faith in God. "If ye have faith and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig-tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea, it shall be done," Matt. 21:21. All who trust in God with unwavering faith can accomplish marvelous things with His help. Their prayers will be acceptable to God, and He will perform what seems impossible to them; He will perform miracles to give them what they ask for in faith. Every true prayer, spoken in faith in the Savior, is heard by God and answered. "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

Only the prayer of the Christian, however, is a true prayer and acceptable to God. God looks upon the heart, and the first thing He demands of us when we pray is that our heart be free from doubt and unbelief. Faith, unwavering faith in God and His promises, is necessary. And the heart must also be free from enmity

and hatred. Our prayer must be a Christian prayer, and a Christian's heart is not filled with hatred and enmity against any one, not even against those who have offended or insulted him. The Christian's heart is filled with forgiveness toward all men. Forgive those who have wronged you. "If ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses." Forgive others, even as God has forgiven you your sins. Then, and then only, can you joyfully pray to your Father in heaven, confident that your prayer is acceptable to Him.

"Lord, teach us to pray!"

E. EN

IN THE MORNING MAIL

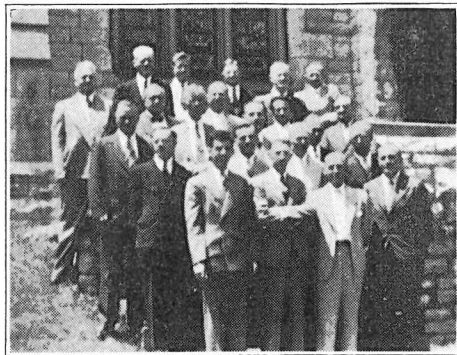
Cleveland, O.—Several months ago Miss Lucille Otto of New Castle, Pa., wrote a letter asking me to begin services for the deaf in New Castle. This appeal came because quite a few were anxious to receive Gospel-preaching. The undersigned has now preached three months in New Castle, and the average attendance was 20 deaf persons; and they are zealous and thankful for Christ's Gospel. In the June service three or four autos drove about 50 miles round-trip in order to attend the service in New Castle. May these deaf friends believe firmly in Jesus and continue to show zeal and faithfulness!

Since spring the following became communicant members: Miss Charlotte Schwagler of Buffalo, N. Y.; Eugene Yockey of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Blanche Warmouth, Betty Jane Schwartz, and Kenneth Clark of our Columbus Sunday-school. Let us often pray for our new members and ask the Lord to make them strong in faith to Jesus and faithful members of Christ's Church.

THEO. FREDERKING

Milwaukee, Wis.—This morning, August 2, I received a card from St. Paul, Minn., saying that Pastor Salvner was in an automobile accident near Minneapolis on July 29. Let us hope and pray that Pastor Salvner may recover quickly and feel no after-effects from his experience.

F. C. G.



Members of the Ephphatha Conference, 1938

Omaha Mission.—During the past spring and this summer the deaf of Omaha have been exceptionally busy beautifying their church property, both inside and outside. Several coats of paint in the church basement, walls, and floor certainly have made a very cozy and neat-looking place for our social gatherings and other meetings, of which there have been a number since the church was dedicated. The large church and parsonage lawn has been seeded, and the steady rains during the growing season have been a great help.

Let us say also that our Omaha deaf appreciate their church and have been showing it by their support, by attending services more regularly, and by giving their time and contributions. May God always grant them willing hearts to work untiringly for their church and for the Lord's cause.

During the summer picnics have been held at several places in connection with our services. On July 10 about 75 deaf gathered at Fort Dodge and on July 31 a group



Confirmation Class, May 29, Omaha, Nebr.

of 25 deaf at Sioux City. The annual Omaha picnic took place on August 21, with a large crowd in attendance.

Four adult deaf at Sioux City, namely, the Misses La Von Ellis, Ruth Scott, and Jurena Hendricks, and Mr. Francis Christensen, have been studying the Catechism through the summer, and Vernon Meyer of Lincoln, Nebr., has recently expressed his desire to join our Church and is taking instructions.

May 29 was a day of joy for eighteen pupils of the Council Bluffs and Omaha State schools, when they made a public confession of their faith in the new church in Omaha. Those confirmed from Iowa were: Pauline Allen, Des Moines; Viola Cirks, Gilmore City; Leroy Good, Sergeant Bluff; Clarence Malcolm, Jeanne McEldon and Edward Swalley, Cedar Rapids; Richard Leeper and Marguerite Olney, Waterloo; Arnold Mumm, Paullina; Harriett Mersbergen, Oskaloosa; Helen Nichols, Mitchell; Ruth Olson, Garner; Jane Peterson, Mason City; Donald Reeves, Creston. Those from the Nebraska school were: John Stiverson, Lincoln; Frances Thompson, Sidney; De Loris Versaw, Ewing; Else Witte, Deshler. Six of the class were also baptized. May God grant them grace and keep them steadfast in the faith to the end!

Baptisms: Donna Jean Ennen, Fort Dodge, Iowa; Ruth Elaine Rose and Ray Junior Rose, Boone, Iowa; Gerald Francis Hagen, Ames, Iowa; and Harry Frank Broekemeier, Columbus, Nebr.

The oldest member of our Omaha congregation, Mrs. Christina Heinzman, 81 years, passed away on June 23. Before her death she often confessed her sincere faith in her Savior and was ready and willing to go to Him whenever He would call her out of this life. Rev. E. T. Otto conducted the funeral services in the absence of her pastor. E. M.

Indianapolis Mission.—On June 12 Mrs. Anna Miller, a member of our St. John's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, departed this life at the ripe age of seventy-two years, to be with her Lord and Savior forever.

Owing to a combination of circumstances, her pastor could not lay her body to rest in God's acre, but the pastor of one of her sons performed this duty. In the July service her pastor and St. John's held a memorial service.

Mrs. Miller, *née* Heth, was a widow since 1915, her husband also having been a member of our Lutheran deaf congregation. She is survived by her three sons, whom she brought up in the fear and admonition to the Lord, their wives, and six grandchildren.

Mrs. Miller as a child attended our Detroit school for a number of years, but she was instructed for confirmation and communicant membership by a local pastor. She was an humble and sincere Christian. Very seldom was she absent from divine services and the Communion table, and then only for the best of reasons. Walking was very difficult for her the last years of her life, but assisted by a daughter-in-law, she came faithfully to the services, shaming many who can walk well but do not care whether they hear or do not hear the Gospel God gives them out of undeserved grace for their eternal salvation. May her example incite others! May her body rest in peace until the day of the great resurrection and then arise in glory to be with the Lord forever! G.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Carl Engelke of Milaca and Genevieve Holt of Farmington were united in holy marriage at the pastor's home June 18. May God's blessing abide with them! F. L. S.

Mission for Blind and Deaf.—Many visitors living thirty to fifty miles from our mission-stations attended our services this summer. We surely welcome them and hope they will find it possible to come regularly. Coming to church to worship the true God and learning His blessed message of salvation is a step in the right direction toward true happiness. In Lexington, Ky., Mr. and Mrs. R. Broadus, who have been on the sick-list, are improving. Let us remember at all times that health and strength come from the Lord. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ewing of the same city deserve special mention. They are helpful to us in many ways, distributing our literature, signing hymns, inviting visiting deaf, and showing a real interest at all times in the work of the Church.

A reader of our *Lutheran Herald*, Moon type, in Missouri, among many others, recently sent us the following letter: "Just a few lines to let you hear from

me and to let you know that I really appreciate the *Lutheran Herald* and truly enjoy reading and studying it. The woman who first helped me to learn to read also enjoys the *Herald* and receives help from the reading. May the Lord continue to bless this wonderful work!"

O. C. S.

South Dakota Mission.—Our mission-station in Yankton, S. Dak., recently mourned the loss of Charles William Wright. Although confirmed by Rev. Mappes only two years ago, he had done much to assist in our church-work in that vicinity, a very eager and faithful young man.

His sudden and untimely death, at the age of twenty-two years, was caused by a wound which became infected with the tetanus bacterium. After a short, but severe illness the Lord called him to his eternal rest early Friday morning, May 13.

"The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart; and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come. He shall enter into peace," Is. 57:1, 2.

A. T. J.

Useful When Applied

A soap-manufacturer, not a Christian, was walking with a minister. Said the soap-maker, "The Gospel you preach hasn't done much good, for there's still a lot of wickedness and wicked people."

The preacher made no immediate reply; but they soon passed a child making mud pies. He was exceedingly dirty. It was the preacher's turn, and so he said: "Soap hasn't done much good in the world, I see; for there's still much dirt and many dirty people."

"Oh, well," answered the manufacturer, "soap is useful only when it's applied."

"Exactly," was the minister's reply; "so it is with the Gospel we proclaim."

Gospel Herald

How God Seeks Man

The very first thing that happened after the news reached heaven of the fall of man was that God came straight down to seek out the lost one. As He walked through the garden in the cool of the day, He might have been heard calling, "Adam, Adam, where art thou?" It was the voice of grace, of mercy, and of love. Adam ought to have taken the seeker's place, for he was the transgressor. He had fallen, and he ought to have gone up and down Eden crying, "My God, my God, where art Thou?" But God left heaven to

seek through the dark world for the rebel who had fallen, not to hurl him from the face of the earth, but to plan for him a way of escape from the misery of his sin. And He found him

But none of the ransomed ever knew
How deep were the waters crossed
Nor how dark was the night that the Lord
passed through,
Ere He found His sheep that was lost.

D. L. MOODY

Lutheran Ministers to the Deaf

Rev. A. Boll, 192 Hewes St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Rev. N. E. Borchardt, 7635 Grixdale Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Rev. E. Scheibert, 1400 N. Ridgeway Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Rev. F. C. Gade, 1717 a W. Meinecke Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
Rev. A. E. Ferber, 2538 Quincy Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
Rev. E. Mappes, 5070 Lake St., Omaha, Nebr.
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Rev. Theo. Frederking, 803 E. 100th St., Cleveland, O.
Rev. A. Jonas, 109 N. Wayland Ave., Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

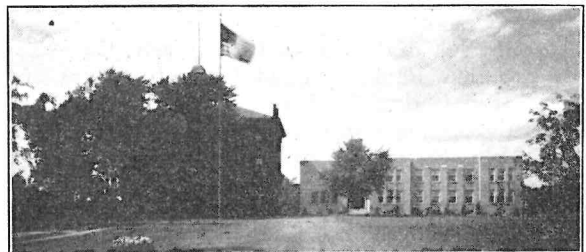
Ministers to the Deaf and the Blind

Rev. O. Schroeder, B. D., 1648 E. 85th St., Chicago, Ill.
Rev. A. Kuntz, 805 Lindaraxa Park, Alhambra, Cal.

These ministers preach in more than 200 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at many State schools for the deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The deaf need God's Word.

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Mr. John A. Klein, Director
6861 Nevada Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

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